

## What Is Claimed Is:

1. A method of managing access to information using an ID information management system comprising at least one owner terminal having an owner terminal ID, an ID control center, and at least one third-party terminal having a third-party terminal ID, the method comprising:

transmitting from the owner terminal to the ID control center an ID of an ID holder, at least one information item having a name and data, and a number of access points required for a third party to access the data of the information item;

storing the ID, the information item, and the number of access points in the ID control center;

transmitting the third-party terminal ID and a number of purchased points from the third-party terminal to the ID control center;

storing the terminal ID and the number of purchased points in the ID control center;

transmitting from the third-party terminal to the ID control center an access request that includes the third-party terminal ID, the ID of the ID holder, and the name of the information item; and

comparing the number of purchased points with the number of access points,

wherein if the number of purchased points is the greater than the number of access points, the data of the information item is transmitted to the third-party terminal and a value obtained by subtracting the number of access points from the number of purchased points is stored as the number of purchased points.

2. A method according to claim 1, wherein the number of access points is set to infinity for the information item to restrict access to the data of the information item.

3. A method according to claim 1, wherein all of the steps are executed by a computer program.

4. A method of managing access to information using an ID information management system comprising at least one owner terminal having an owner terminal ID, an ID control center, and at least one third-party terminal having a third-party terminal ID, the method comprising:

transmitting from the owner terminal to the ID control center an ID of an ID holder, at least one information item having a name and data, and an access-enabling condition for permitting the third-party terminal to access the data;

storing in the ID control center the ID of the ID holder, the information items, and the access-enabling condition;

transmitting from the third-party terminal to the ID control center an access request that includes the third-party terminal ID, the ID of the ID holder, the name of the information item, and an access request condition; and

comparing the access request condition with the access-enabling condition,

wherein if the access request condition does not match the access-enabling condition, a dialog is established according to a predetermined talk script between the owner terminal and the third-party terminal to match the conditions.

5. A method according to claim 4, wherein the talk script is customizable.

6. A method according to claim 4, wherein all of the steps are executed by a computer program.

7. A method of managing access to information using an ID information management system comprising at least one owner terminal having an owner terminal ID, an ID control center, and at least one third-party terminal having a third-party terminal ID, the method comprising:

transmitting from the owner terminal to the ID control center an ID of an ID holder and at least one information item having a required name and data;

storing in the ID control center the ID of the ID holder and the information item;

transmitting from the third-party terminal to the ID control center an access request that includes the third-party terminal ID, the ID of the ID holder, and a requested name of the information item; and

comparing the requested name of the information item with the required name of the information item,

wherein if these requested name of the information item matches the required name of the information item, the data of the information item is transmitted to the third-party terminal.

8. A method according to claim 7, wherein the required name of the information item is fixed.

5 9. A method according to claim 7, wherein the required name of the information item is variable.

10. A method according to claim 7, wherein all of the steps are executed by a computer program.

10 11. A method of managing access to information using an ID information management system comprising an ID control center having an ID information and an access condition for accessing the ID information, and at least one third-party terminal having a third-party terminal ID, the method comprising:

15 compiling in the ID control center an access history information containing the third-party terminal IDs of the third party terminals that have accessed the ID information; and modifying the access condition based on the access history information compiled.

20 12. A method according to claim 11, wherein all of the steps are executed by a computer program.

13. A method of managing access to information using an ID information management system comprising at least one owner terminal and an ID control center, the method comprising:

25 storing the ID information in a predetermined format in the ID control center; recording a second format used by the owner terminal; and converting the ID information into the second format from the predetermined format when the information is accessed from the owner terminal.

30 14. A method according to claim 13, wherein all of the steps are executed by a computer program.

15. A method of managing access to information using an ID information management system comprising at least one owner terminal having an ID, an ID control center, and at least one provider terminal, the method comprising:

transmitting from the owner terminal to the provider terminal specification

5 information specifying a product or a service to be provided;

transmitting from the provider terminal to the ID control center order information for providing the product or service based on the specification information; and

linking the order information and the ID in the ID control center,

10 wherein the ID control center uses the link to transmit information about the product or service ordered to the provider terminal in a future product or service request.

16. A method according to claim 15, wherein the order information includes information about the ID holder.

15 17. A method according to claim 16, wherein the linked order information, but not the specification information, is transmitted from the owner terminal to the provider terminal for the future product or service request.

18. A method according to claim 15, wherein all of the steps are executed by a  
20 computer program.

19. A method of managing access to information using an ID information management system comprising an ID control center, a first owner terminal used by a first ID holder, a second owner terminal used by a second ID holder having an ID, and at least one  
25 provider terminal, the method comprising:

transmitting from the first owner terminal to the provider terminal specification information specifying a product or a service to be provided to the second ID holder;

transmitting from the provider terminal to the ID control center order information for providing the product or service based on the specification information; and

30 linking the order information and the ID in the ID control center,

wherein the specification information contains information about the second ID holder, and wherein the ID control center uses the link to transmit information about the product or service ordered to the provider terminal in a future product or service request.

20. A method according to claim 19, wherein the specification information contains the ID.

21. A method according to claim 19, further comprising the steps of:  
transmitting from the provider terminal to the ID control center a request for additional information about the second ID holder before transmitting to the ID control center the order information;

transmitting from the ID control center to the second owner terminal a request for the additional information; and

transmitting from the second owner terminal to the ID control center the requested additional information,

wherein the specification information does not contain sufficient information about the second ID holder for the product or service to be provided.

22. A method according to claim 19, wherein the linked order information, but not the specification information, is transmitted from the first owner terminal to the provider terminal for the future product or service request.

23. A method according to claim 19, wherein all of the steps are executed by a computer program.

24. An ID information management system for a combination of at least one owner terminal having an owner terminal ID, an ID control center, and at least one third-party terminal having a third-party terminal ID, the management system comprising:

a means for transmitting from the owner terminal to the ID control center an ID of an ID holder, at least one information item having a name and data, and a number of access points required for the third-party terminal to access the data;

a means for storing in the ID control center the ID of the ID holder, the information items, and the number of access points;

a means for transmitting the third-party terminal ID and a number of purchased points from the third-party terminal to the ID control center,

a means for storing the third-party terminal ID and the number of purchased points in

the ID control center;

a means for transmitting an access request that includes the third-party terminal ID, the ID of the ID holder, and the name of the information item from the third-party terminal to the ID control center; and

5 a means for comparing the number of purchased points with the number of access points,

wherein if the number of purchased points is the greater than the number of access points, the data of the information item is transmitted to the third-party terminal and a value obtained by subtracting the number of access points from the number of purchased points is  
10 stored as the number of purchased points.

25. A system according to claim 24, wherein the number of access points is set to infinity for the information item to restrict access to the data of the information item.

15 26. An ID information management system for a combination of at least one owner terminal having an owner terminal ID, an ID control center, and at least one third-party terminal having a third-party terminal ID, the management system comprising:

a means for transmitting from the owner terminal to the ID control center an ID of an ID holder, at least one information item having a name and data, and an access-enabling  
20 condition for permitting the third-party terminal to access the data;

a means for storing in the ID control center the ID of the ID holder, the information item, and the access-enabling condition;

a means for transmitting from the third-party terminal to the ID control center an access request that includes the third-party terminal ID, the ID of the ID holder, the name of  
25 the information item, and an access request condition; and

a means for comparing the access request condition with the access-enabling condition,

wherein if these two conditions do not match, a dialog is established according to a predetermined talk script between the owner terminal and the third-party terminal to match  
30 the conditions.

27. A system according to claim 26, wherein the talk script is customizable.

28. An ID information management system for a combination of at least one owner terminal having an owner terminal ID, an ID control center, and at least one third-party terminal having a third-party terminal ID, the management system comprising:

a means for transmitting from the owner terminal to the ID control center an ID of an ID holder and at least one information item having a required name and data;  
a means for storing in the ID control center the ID of the ID holder and the information items;

a means for transmitting an access request that includes the third-party terminal ID, the ID of the ID holder, and a requested name of the information item from the third-party terminal to the ID control center; and

a means for comparing the required name of the information item and the requested name of the information item,

wherein if the required name and the requested name match, the data is sent from the ID control center to the third-party terminal.

29. A system according to claim 28, wherein the required name of the information item is fixed.

30. A method according to claim 28, wherein the required name of the information item is variable.

31. An ID information management system for a combination of at least one owner terminal having an ID control center having an ID information and an access condition for accessing the ID information, and at least one third-party terminal having a third-party terminal ID, the management system comprising:

a means for compiling in the ID control center an access history information containing the third-party terminal IDs of the third-party terminals that have accessed the ID information; and

a means for modifying the access condition based on the access history information compiled.

32. An ID information management system for a combination of at least one owner terminal and an ID control center, the management system comprising:

a means for storing the ID information in a predetermined format in the ID control center;

a means for recording a second format used by the owner terminal; and

a means for converting the ID information from the predetermined format into the second format when the ID information is accessed from the owner terminal.

33. An ID information management system for a combination of at least one owner terminal having an owner terminal ID, an ID control center, and at least one provider terminal, the management system comprising:

a means for transmitting from the owner terminal to the provider terminal specification information for specifying a product or a service to be provided;

a means for transmitting from the provider terminal to the ID control center order information for providing the product or service based on the specification information; and

a means for linking the order information and the owner terminal ID in the ID control center,

wherein the link is used by the ID control center to transmit information about the product or service ordered to the provider terminal in a future product or service request.

34. A system according to claim 33, wherein the order information includes information about the ID holder.

35. An ID information management system for a combination of an ID control center, a first owner terminal used by a first ID holder, a second owner terminal used by a second ID holder having an ID, and at least one provider terminal, the management system comprising:

a means for transmitting from the first owner terminal to the provider terminal specification information for specifying a product or a service to be provided to the second ID holder;

a means for transmitting from the provider terminal to the ID control center order information for providing the product or service based on the specification information; and

a means for linking the order information and the owner terminal ID in the ID control center,



wherein the specification contains information about the second ID holder, and wherein the link is used by the ID control center to transmit information about the product or service ordered to the provider terminal in a future product or service request.

5           36.     A system according to claim 35, wherein the specification information contains the ID.

          37.     A system according to claim 35, further comprising:  
          a means for transmitting from the provider terminal to the second owner terminal via  
10   the ID control center a request for additional information about the second ID holder; and  
          a means for transmitting from the second owner terminal to the ID control center the  
          requested additional information,  
          wherein the specification information does not contain sufficient information about  
          the second ID holder for the product or service to be provided.

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